INTERNAL AFFAIRS BUREAU INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY

IV2262199

Boese, Eugene Deputy, Employee Subject:

Unit: Compton Station, Region II

Date: March 15, 2009

Location:

This case is in reference to an off-duty incident where Subject Eugene Peter Boese was arrested on July 8, 2010, by San Bernardino County Sheriff for Perjury-118PC; False Insurance Claim for Payment of Loss-550(A)(1)PC; Providing False Information for Insurance Claim-550(B)(1)PC. He was subsequently released on his "Own Recognizance."

On March 15, 2009, Subject Boese filed a stolen vehicle report for his black 2005 Cadillac CTS. He subsequently filed an insurance claim for the loss of his vehicle with The Automobile Club of Southern California (AAA). His vehicle was found in Mexico on March 17, 2009, with minor damage. It was alleged that the police report and insurance claim were filed fraudulently.

On January 25, 2011, as part of a plea deal, Subject Boese withdrew his initial not guilty plea and plead "Nolo Contendere" to an amended misdemeanor charge of 32 PC-Accessory to a Felony. Honorable Judge Donald G. Umhofer sentenced Subject Boese to probation for 36 months, from January 25, 2011 through January 24, 2014. The penalty imposed was a fine, and credit for time served-1 day.

> IAB NOTE: For further details, refer to the copy of County of San Bernardino, Superior Court Case Print, Exhibit C.

> IAB NOTE: Refer to a copy of County of San Bernardino's plea bargain agreement, Exhibit B.

On February 3, 2011, Internal Affairs Bureau was assigned the administrative investigation.

The following is a summary of the investigation conducted by The County of San Bernardino, Office of the District Attorney, Auto Insurance Fraud Unit, Senior Investigator On March 15, 2009, Subject Boese claimed that he parked and locked his 2005 black Cadillac CTS (license in the driveway of his residence between 2000 and 2100 hours on March 14, 2009. He then went into his residence and went to bed. On March 15, 2009, at approximately 0345 hours, he went out to his vehicle to leave for work. Subject Boese said his vehicle was gone and there was no evidence of theft found at the scene. Subject Boese still had all of the keys to his vehicle. Subject Boese filed an auto theft report with the San Bernadino County Sheriff's Department and signed the theft report under penalty of perjury. Subject Boese then filed an insurance claim with The Automobile Club of Southern California (AAA) for the loss of his vehicle the same day.

<u>IAB NOTE:</u> For a copy of the stolen vehicle report (CHP-180) signed by Subject Boese, refer to Exhibit A, pages 28 thru 30.

IAB NOTE: For a copy of "Affidavit of Automobile Total Theft" form signed by Subject Boese, refer to Exhibit A, pages 377 & 378.

On March 17, 2009, Subject Boese's vehicle was located in Rosarito Beach, Mexico with minor scratches on the right side of the vehicle and the battery missing. The vehicle was brought back to the United States and stored in a AAA storage lot.

of AAA contacted Subject Boese and notified him about the recovery of his vehicle and its condition. Subject Boese requested that his vehicle be towed to a because they had previously worked on his vehicle and he trusted this repair shop. On March 23, 2009, Subject Boese went to and placed tape on his vehicle where he felt there was new damage caused by his vehicle being stolen. Subject Boese marked the following damages: cracked windshield, left front bumper damage, scratch to right rear quarter panel, and paint missing on left rear door. Later on the same day, Subject Boese called Insurance Adjuster to say he forgot to mention some damage to the undercarriage of his vehicle.

<u>IAB NOTE:</u> For a copy of the stolen vehicle recovery report (CHP-180), refer to Exhibit A, page 31.

<u>IAB NOTE</u>: During Subject Boese's Internal Affairs Bureau interview, he said his windshield was cracked prior to the vehicle being reported stolen. He also said all other traffic collision damages had been repaired prior to the vehicle being reported stolen, except for the damage on the left side of the vehicle.

On March 25, 2009, AAA insurance adjuster, examined the vehicle and noted the damaged areas that Subject Boese had marked. She noticed that the ignition and the door locks had not been tampered with. She also noted that employees of would not place Subject Boese's vehicle on a lift so she could inspect the undercarriage for any damages. Mr. told Ms. that the only way this type of vehicle could have been stolen would have been with a master key or it would have had to be towed away.

IAB NOTE: According to General Manager for General Motors, no duplicate keys were made to Subject Boese's vehicle, during the time frame in which he owned it, refer to Exhibit A, page 13.

<u>IAB NOTE:</u> For "Note Reports" from the insurance adjusters, refer to Exhibit A, pages 187 thru 197.

<u>IAB NOTE:</u> For pictures of Subject Boese's vehicle, refer to Exhibit A, pages 205 thru 236. Also see the same pictures in color, Exhibit E.

IAB NOTE: For a copy of the damage assessment by Adjuster , refer to Exhibit A, pages 238 thru 241.

Due to there being no signs of forced entry and the fact that Subject Boese still had all of his keys, AAA felt Subject Boese's claim was suspicious. They requested that Subject Boese submit his cell phone records, his work records, and his financial records. They also requested that Subject Boese submit to an Examination Under Oath (EUO). AAA said that Subject Boese did not cooperate, he did not submit the requested documents and refused to be questioned under oath. AAA denied the claim due to Subject Boese's lack of cooperation. Based on Subject Boese's lack of cooperation and possible suspicious activity, his claim was forwarded to The San Bernardino County, District Attorney's Office, Auto Insurance Unit for investigation.

IAB NOTE: For copies of letters from The County of San Bernardino, Office of the District Attorney naming AAA as possible victim of a fraudulent insurance claim, refer to Exhibit A, pages 175 thru 181.

IAB NOTE: For copies of the Suspected Fraudulent Claim Referral form and numerous emails between insurance investigators and correspondences requesting Subject Boese to respond for an Examination Under Oath (EUO), refer to Exhibit A, pages 290 thru 372.

Mr. (owner of repair shop) provided copies of previous vehicle repair invoices and repair estimates for Subject Boese's vehicle. Mr. identified Subject Boese from his DMV picture shown to him by District Attorney's Auto Insurance Unit Investigator Mr. advised that he had already provided Subject Boese with an estimate for the damage the AAA adjuster was examining at his shop, prior to his vehicle being stolen. Mr. said that Subject Boese told him the damage was caused by him driving on freeways that were under repair while going to work.

| | IAB NOTE: For a copies of estimates from Exhibit A, pages 37 thru 46 (pages 38 & 46 are actual invoices for work previously done). The computer estimates provided by Mr. are all dated 03/02/10, which is the actual date Mr. was interviewed by Investigator His computer does not retain the actual date of the estimates anytime an inquiry is made after the initial estimate. |
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| | IAB NOTE: Mr. verified that he gave Subject Boese an estimate to replace the front windshield, fix minor dents and paint his Cadillac prior to AAA examining the vehicle on March 25, 2009. Mr. was unsure of the exact date but verified that he gave that estimate approximately three months prior to Subject Boese's vehicle being reported stolen. |
| | IAB NOTE: On May 9, 2008, Subject Boese was involved in a traffic accident in Rancho Cucamonga, where he was found to be at fault. The damages listed on the traffic report are similar to the damages listed on Mr. estimates and Ms. assessment for Subject Boese's vehicle. For a copy of the traffic collision report, see Exhibit A, pages 34 thru 36. |
| subscriber in times on the returned to phone makin records place | se's work schedule, his cell phone bill which was contacted nine evening of March 14, 2009. The subscriber information on the subscriber information on the subscriber school showed his cell phone records showed his cell and receiving calls from Mr. Subject Boese's cell phone on that evening. The ed Subject Boese's cell phone in the area of Rancho Cucamonga, to Mira raveling south towards Norco, Murrieta, and Fallbrook, which is in North San |
| | IAB NOTE: For copies of the search warrant and subpeona records for Subject Boese's work schedule/time records and Verizon Wireless cell phone records authored by Investigator refer to Exhibit A, pages 47 thru 78. |

<u>IAB NOTE:</u> For copies of Subject Boese's Verizon cell phone records, refer to Exhibit A, pages 79 thru 129 (pages 114-129 are cell tower coordinates).

<u>IAB NOTE:</u> Refer to Google Map for the course of travel where Subject Boese's phone was tracked, Exhibit F.

<u>IAB NOTE:</u> Refer to Google Map for the distance between Subject Boese's cell to Rosarito, Mexico, Exhibit G.

| Investigator ocated and questioned about this knowledge or involvement in this crime. Mr. acknowledged he was good friends with Subject Boese and they often went to Mexico. Mr. identified himself as a U.S. Border Protection Officer who worked for the Department of Homeland Security. Mr. admitted that he had worked the United States/Mexico border in the past and had a lot of friends who worked there. | | | |
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| Mr. would not answer the question as to whether he drove Subject Boese back from Mexico on the night of March 14, 2009, after Subject Boese allegedly abandoned his vehicle. Mr. said his answer would jeopardize his job. | | | |
| refer to Mr. transcribed interview with Investigator | | | |
| IAB NOTE: For copies of the search warrant for Mr. Verizon Wireless cell phone records authored by Investigator refer to Exhibit A, pages 130 thru 158. | | | |
| IAB NOTE: For copies of Mr. Verizon cell phone bill, refer to Exhibit A, pages 159 thru 174. | | | |
| On June 30, 2010, as a result of Investigator investigation, three felony counts were filed against Subject Boese in the San Bernardino Superior Court. The Penal Code Sections filed were: Count 1-118PC-False Police Report; Count 2-550(a)(1)PC-Insurance Fraud; Count 3-550(b)(1)PC-Conspiracy to Commit Insurance Fraud. | | | |
| IAB NOTE: For further details, see a copy of Investigator Investigative Report, Exhibit A. | | | |
| IAB NOTE: See a copy of The County of San Bernardino's Felony Complaint, Exhibit B. | | | |
| SUBJECT INTERVIEW | | | |
| Subject - Deputy Eugene Boese Compton Station, was interviewed by Sergeant Sonja Bracken and Sergeant Teri Roberts on March 10 , 2011, at 1037 | | | |

recorded. The following is a summary.

hours. Subject Boese was represented by Mitchell Kander from Green & Shinee. The interview took place at Internal Affairs Bureau, Interview Room A and was digitally

| Subject Boese said he has v | vorked at | since he gradua | ated the academy in |
|------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| He said | | ar | nd from there he went |
| to Compton Patrol Station w | here he is currently a | ssigned. He sai | d at the time of this |
| incident, March 14, 2009, he | was on day shift | | |

Subject Boese verified that he owned the 2005 Cadillac CTS, license since April of 2005. He said he had the vehicle insured by The Automobile Club of Southern California (AAA) for the entire time he owned the vehicle. He said for the most part, he was the only person who drove the vehicle. Subject Boese said he was in two traffic collisions; one in a condo complex just after he purchased the vehicle and one with a truck in Rancho Cucamonga.

He said in the first collision he sustained damage to the front, left side of the vehicle and all that damage had been repaired. Subject Boese said in the second collision, the same area of his vehicle was damaged but he had not gotten that damage repaired. He said he did not recall the dates of either collision. He said the windshield was cracked on his vehicle but he could not recall how that occurred. He later said that the first accident was in October 2005 but again said that damage was repaired. He said he could not remember if he obtained an estimate for the damage sustained to his vehicle in the second accident.

Subject Boese then confirmed that he had a traffic collision on May 9, 2008 on Archibald Avenue in Rancho Cucamonga and this was the collision where the damage was not repaired. Subject Boese said he did not feel that he spent a lot of money for continual repairs on his vehicle.

IAB NOTE: See two ISO- (The Intregrated Solution) Claim Search printouts on Subject Boese's vehicle showing previous insurance claims, pages dated on bottom showing March 16, 2009 and March 26, 2009, Exhibit A, pages 380 thru 387. ISO is the only comprehensive all claims database and system for claims processing and fraud detection, serving property/casualty insurers and self insured organizations. They routinely work in conjunction with the NCIB- National Insurance Crime Bureau.

Subject Boese verified that he parked his Cadillac in his driveway at home on March 14, 2009. He said he last saw his vehicle at approximately 2300 hours. Subject Boese verified that he reported the vehicle stolen with the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department at approximately 0355 hours. He verified his signature on the stolen vehicle report (Exhibit A, page 28). He verified that he still had possession of the keys to his vehicle and there was no debris in the driveway that would have shown signs of the theft. Subject Boese said he did not have the license plates on his vehicle at the time he reported it stolen. He said he never put his license plates on any of his vehicles because inmates would be able to see his plates, possibly get his name and get his home information through someone at the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

Subject Boese said he did not feel it was a big issue not to have the license plates on his vehicle. He said he did not think that the registration on his vehicle was expired at the time he reported it stolen. Subject Boese denied having any problems registering his vehicle.

IAB NOTE: On the stolen vehicle report taken on March 15, 2009, it shows the registration was expired as of April 2008, refer to Exhibit A, page 28. Also refer to Exhibit D for a print out of his vehicle registration.

Subject Boese verified that he called AAA the same morning (March 15, 2009) to report his vehicle stolen. He verified that he completed and signed his signature on AAA's Affidavit of Automobile Total Theft (Exhibit A, page 377 & 378). He confirmed that he had AAA employee witness his signature and turned it into him on March 28, 2009.

Subject Boese denied that he took a trip to Mexico while on his regular days off (RDO's-Thursday, Friday, Saturday), prior to him reporting his vehicle stolen. He denied driving his vehicle down to Mexico and abandoning it on or before March 14, 2009. He denied having his vehicle towed to Mexico. He denied having anyone else drive his vehicle to Mexico.

Subject Boese did not claim that there was any body damages or mechanical problems with his vehicle as of March 15, 2009. He would only say there were a few scratches on the vehicle but could not recall where on the vehicle. He said he could not remember if his windshield was cracked as of this date.

<u>IAB NOTE:</u> Subject Boese contradicted his earlier statements where he specifically remembered the areas where his vehicle was damaged and had not been repaired. He also previously said that his windshield was cracked.

| same number at the time of this interview. He said he was not aware if he ever loaned his phone to anyone on March 14 th or 15 th , 2009. Subject Boese verified that cell phone number belonged to a friend of his named He said they have been friends for approximately 10 to 12 years. He said they often took trips to Mexico and frequented Tijuana, Ensenada and Rosarito Beach. |
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| Subject Boese verified his cell phone bill and calls made on the night of March 14, 2009 to and from cell phone (Exhibit A, pages 92 & 164). He said the could have been going to San Diego or Mexico on that night. He then said he could not remember that night. He said he was aware that there were license plate readers on the border between the United States and Mexico but denied that they went to Mexico Subject Boese said he could not remember the reason for the phone calls on that night he said was his friend and that he talked to him often. |

and currently still had this

Subject Boese verified his cell phone number as

| Tean a Ve mad phor | NOTE: n (LERT) rizon cell phone shows e or received. Both Subj nes were in the same are pm-Mira Loma, 8:53pm-l | ect Boese's and as on March 14, 2009; 8:4 | ation column" on where a call was cell 41pm-Mira Loma, |
|--|---|--|--|
| question as to wh Investigators ques asked again if he w Boese denied tha | nis attorney, Subject Boes by his friend tions regarding giving him has going to answer the que the had a conversation if he was to get questione | would not answe a ride back from Mexico. estion, Subject Boese agai with about him r | r District Attorney When specifically n refused. Subject |
| Bord She | NOTE: ler Protection. Their Inte verified that she intervie said Subject Boese's vehic | ewed denied any involvement i | about this case. |
| <u>IAB</u> filed vehi | | verified that no crimi in the incident involving | |
| on March 2009. Subject Boothe vehicle upon it were missing from and they dand m color pictures (Extended as damage vehicle as damages the damages the answer as to why on the same damaged the color pictures. | erified that he had a record 19, 2009. He verified the ese said he did not remember to recovery. He then remain the vehicle. Subject Book in the vehicle of the verified arked damages on the his ed. He then said he could be eing stolen. He said he do not at he had marked with the lages he marked approximate of the lages he | at his Cadillac was recover ber what damages Mr. embered that the battery ese verified that he had he had that within a week of its rest Cadillac with blue tape. he marked those areas on the remember if all the dame id not remember getting a blue tape. Subject Boese e AAA adjuster that he recately three months prior to | said were on and the spare tire is vehicle taken to done previous work ecovery, he went to He verified on the mages were on his an estimate for any e said he could not ceived an estimate o his vehicle being |

Subject Boese verified that he received several phone calls from an attorney from AAA in regards to him submitting his cell phone records, work time records and to arrange for an Examination Under Oath (EUO), sworn statement. He said he did not submit the requested items or meet with anyone from AAA because in the process of retrieving them, his vehicle was recovered. He said he was no longer interested in the claim and he did not feel it was a "big deal." He said he did not want to take time off of work or time away from his daughter on his days off to continue with the claim. He said he no longer communicated with the AAA attorneys office. Subject Boese said he did not speak to anyone nor was he ever contacted by anyone from the San Bernardino County District Attorney's Insurance Fraud Unit.

Subject Boese said believed he got his Cadillac back from a couple weeks after it was recovered. He said the auto shop replaced the battery but did not make any other repairs on the vehicle. He said he used it for work once he got his vehicle back. He said he did not remember filing a Planned Non-Operational (PNO) on the vehicle with the DMV.

IAB NOTE: Refer to the Subject Boese's vehicle registration showing a PNO as of April 8, 2009, Exhibit D. His vehicle is currently registered in the State of Washington under new owners as of November 23, 2009, refer to Exhibit D.

Subject Boese verified that he had replace the engine in his vehicle with a used engine on July 8, 2009 (Refer to repair invoice, Exhibit A, page 38). He said the old engine "broke", it had stopped working and he was not sure what the specific diagnosis was for the engine. He said he did not ask the mechanic what the problem was with the old engine but he knew it could not be repaired. He said he had a warranty on his Cadillac but could not remember how long the warranty was for.

Subject Boese said he traded in the vehicle in August of 2009 to a Nissan Dealership in Riverside. He could not remember the name of the dealership. He denied that he was getting rid of the vehicle because it was bringing negative attention and suspicion due to his insurance claim. He said his vehicle had approximately 90,000 miles on it at the time he traded it in.

Subject Boese verified that he was arrested by San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office on July 8, 2010. He verified that he was booked for 550 P.C. and 118 P.C. and released on his own recognizance. He verified that he pled "noto contendere" to the misdemeanor charge of 32 P.C. on January 25, 2011. He said he decided to take a plea deal because he had not been paid in six months, he is a single father and he hoped the deal was okay for him. He said he and his attorney thought that he had a winnable case but it would have costed him another \$30,000 to continue his case. He said he had already paid his attorney \$10,000, he did not have any more money and he thought it was the quickest and cheapest way to get the case behind him. Subject Boese said as a result of the plea deal he had to pay restitution to AAA for their investigation and he was placed on 12 to 18 months probation.

<u>IAB NOTE:</u> Subject Boese was sentenced to probation for 36 months, refer to The Superior Court Minutes, Exhibit C.

Later in this interview, Subject Boese said he attempted to meet with AAA representatives but due to him working in Compton on day shift, he was unable to get to their offices prior to closing. He said he could not go on his days off (Thursday or Friday at the time) because those are the days that he had his daughter and he was not willing to give up one of those days to go in and meet with them. He said he was not willing to take his daughter with him to an interview. He then admitted that if there was an emergency, he could find a babysitter. He said since his vehicle was recovered he did not think meeting with AAA was necessary. Subject Boese said AAA did not cancel his insurance.

IAB NOTE: AAA Claims Representative verified that Subject Boese is currently still insured with AAA.

Subject Boese said the only thing he would have done differently in this situation was if he had known that it was important, he would have tried harder to meet with AAA representatives.

Subject Boese said he wants the Department to know that he did not have anything to do with the theft of his vehicle. He thinks the District Attorneys Office made a mistake in charging him with those crimes. He said if his record as a deputy was checked, he does not have any prior discipline. He said he had never been in trouble with the law. He said he took the plea deal because he ran out of money and he had to take care of himself and his little girl. He did not have another \$30,000 that it would have taken to fight his case in court.

Attempts to contact Mr. for an interview met with negative results. Voice mail messages were left at the number listed for him and a certified letter was sent to his home on April 13, 2011, with a returned receipt showing that the letter was received on April 14, 2011 (Refer to Miscellaneous Section).



County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department Headquarters 4700 Ramona Boulevard Monterey Park, California 91754–2169



August 1, 2011

| Deputy Eugene Boese, | |
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Dear Deputy Boese:

On June 16, 2011, you were served with a Letter of Intention indicating your right to respond to the Sheriff's Department's pending disciplinary action against you, as reported under File Number IAB 2262199. You were also advised of your right to review the material on which the discipline was based.

You did exercise your right to respond. However, after review and consideration of the response submitted to support your position, your Division Chief determined that the recommended discipline is appropriate.

You are hereby notified that you are discharged from your position of Deputy Sheriff, Item No. 2708A, with this Department, effective as of the close of business on July 29, 2011.

An investigation under File Number IAB 2262199, conducted by Internal Affairs Bureau, coupled with your own statements, has established the following:

- 1. That in violation of Manual of Policy and Procedures Section 3-01/030.05, General behavior; on or about January 25, 2011, you pled "noto contendere" to a misdemeanor charge of Accessory to a Felony, in violation of Penal Code Section 32. By your actions, you have brought discredit upon yourself and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.
- 2. That in violation of Manual of Policy and Procedures Sections 3-01/030.05, General Behavior and/or 3-01/000.10, Professional Conduct; on or about March 15, 2009, you filed a false police report and subsequent fraudulent insurance claim, after falsely claiming that your personal vehicle, a 2005 Cadillac CTS, had been stolen from your driveway at your residence on March 14, 2009. The vehicle, which was recovered in Rosarito Beach, Mexico, on March 17, 2009, had some minor damage and the battery had

been removed. There were no signs of forced entry and you had all the keys to the vehicle in your possession. You refused to cooperate with the insurance investigators and failed to respond to several of their requests to submit to an Examination Under Oath (EUO) concerning the alleged theft of your vehicle, and failed to provide them with certain documents. On June 30, 2010, as a result of a criminal investigation, three Felony counts were filed against you in San Bernardino Superior Court as follows: 118 P.C., Perjury; 550(a)(1) P.C., Insurance Fraud (False Insurance Claim for Payment of Loss); 550(b)(1) P.C., Insurance Fraud (providing false information for insurance claim).

- 3. That in violation of Manual of Policy and Procedures Section 3-01/040.75, Failure to Make Statements and/or Making False Statements During Departmental Internal Investigations, on or about March 10, 2011, during your interview with Internal Affairs, you made false and/or misleading statements to investigators, including but not limited to:
 - a) that you last saw your vehicle in your driveway on March 14, 2009, at approximately 2300 hours, and/or;
 - b) denying having any problems registering your vehicle, and/or;
 - c) that you could not remember whether you went to Mexico or San Diego on the night of March 14, 2009, and/or;
 - d) denying that you went to Mexico on March 14, 2009, and/or;
 - e) denying any involvement in the alleged theft of your vehicle, and/or;
 - f) that there were only a few scratches on the vehicle prior to it being stolen on March 14, 2009, and/or;
 - g) refusing to answer questions regarding your friend,

Your behavior and actions regarding this incident are completely contrary to the Department's Core Values, Mission and Creed and as a Deputy Sheriff, they simply cannot be tolerated. You have brought discredit and embarrassment upon yourself and the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department.

In taking this disciplinary action, your record with this Department has been considered, and a

thorough review of this incident has been made by Department executives, including your Unit and Division Commanders.

You may appeal the Department's action in this matter pursuant to Rules 4.02, 4.05 and 18.02 of the Civil Service Rules.

You may, if you so desire, within fifteen (15) business days from the date of service of this notice of discharge, request a hearing on these charges before the Los Angeles County Civil Service Commission, 222 North Grand Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90012.

The Sheriff's Department reserves the right to amend and/or add to this letter.

Sincerely,

LEROY D. BACA, SHERIFF

JAMÉS R. LOPEZ, CHIEF

FIELD OPERATIONS REGION II

Note: Attached for your convenience are excerpts of the applicable areas of the Manual of Policy

and Procedures and Civil Service Rules.

JRL:JMG:md

c: Advocacy Unit

Diane E. Walker, Captain, Compton Station

Internal Affairs Bureau

Office of Independent Review (OIR)

Kevin E. Hebert, Captain, Personnel Administration